

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00407 01 OF 02 161736Z

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07

IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 NRC-05

DHA-02 /096 W

-----089848 161739Z /46

R 161652Z JUL 77

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2289

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0407

FROM US REP MBFR

USSALTTWO

BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JULY 11-17

1. SUMMARY. WESTERN REPS AT THE JULY 15 INFORMAL SESSION

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00407 01 OF 02 161736Z

OF THE VIENNA FORCE REDUCTION NEGOTIATIONS FORMALLY INTRODUCED THE NEW WESTERN DATA DISAGGREGATION PROPOSAL. EASTERN REPS STATED THAT THEY WOULD STUDY IT IN THE LIGHT OF ITS POTENTIAL UTILITY FOR ESTABLISHING THE REASONS FOR WHAT THEY CLAIM IS AN OVERESTIMATE BY THE WEST OF WARSAW PACT MILITARY MANPOWER IN THE REDUCTION AREA AND ASK ANY QUESTIONS THEY MIGHT HAVE ABOUT IT AT THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSION. THEY

SAID THEY CONTINUED TO REGARD THE EASTERN PROPOSAL FOR THE SUBMISSION OF NATIONAL MANPOWER DATA FOR THE FORCES IN THE AREA OF EACH DIRECT PARTICIPANT AS THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS FOR IDENTIFYING THE SOURCES OF WESTERN ERRORS. END SUMMARY.

2. AT THE JULY 15 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA FORCE REDUCTION NEGOTIATIONS, WESTERN REPS FORMALLY INTRODUCED THE NEW WESTERN DATA DISAGGREGATION PROPOSAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDANCE APPROVED BY THE NAC ON JULY 12. THE PROPOSAL PROVIDES FOR EACH SIDE TO TABLE DATA ON ITS PERSONNEL IN MAJOR GROUND FORCE UNITS GIVING THE OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF SUCH UNITS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ITS NATIONALITY. EACH SIDE WOULD PROVIDE FIGURES FOR THE REMAINING GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL OF EACH DIRECT PARTICIPANT EXCEPT FOR PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO MULTI-LATERAL HEADQUARTERS. THE LATTER FIGURE WOULD NOT BE DIS-AGGREGATED. A SIMILAR PROCEDURE WOULD BE FOLLOWED FOR AIR FORCE MANPOWER AFTER INITIAL DISCUSSION OF GROUND FORCE DATA.

3. WESTERN REPS SAID THAT THEIR AUTHORITIES HAD SETTLED ON THIS METHOD AS THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF MOVING THE DATA DISCUSSION FORWARD. THEY POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS COMMON AGREEMENT THAT THE IMMEDIATE PURPOSE OF THE DATA DISCUSSION WAS TO IDENTIFY THE SOURCES OF THE LARGE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN FIGURES FOR WARSAW PACT PERSONNEL STRENGTH IN THE AREA AND THAT MORE DETAILED DATA THAN THE OVERALL TOTALS ALREADY TABLED WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THIS PURPOSE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00407 01 OF 02 161736Z

THEY URGED EASTERN REPS TO RECOGNIZE THE MERITS OF THE NEW WESTERN PROPOSAL AS AN EFFECTIVE MEANS OF IDENTIFYING SOURCES OF THE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN WESTERN AND EASTERN DATA ON WARSAW PACT MILITARY MANPOWER.

4. THE ONLY EASTERN QUESTIONS POSED AT THE INFORMAL SESSION CONCERNED TWO MATTERS OF DETAIL. EASTERN REPS STATED THAT THEY WOULD STUDY THE PROPOSAL TO SEE WHETHER IT, OR AT LEAST SOME OF ITS ELEMENTS, COULD BE USED TO ADVANCE THE DATA DISCUSSION. THEY SAID THAT A PRINCIPAL CRITERION WOULD BE THE USEFULNESS OF THE PROPOSAL IN REVEALING THE REASONS FOR WHAT THE EAST CLAIMS IS A WESTERN OVERESTIMATE OF WARSAW PACT MANPOWER. MEANWHILE, THEY CONTINUED, THE EASTERN PROPOSAL TO MOVE TO THE EXAMINATION OF NATIONAL DATA FOR EACH DIRECT PARTICIPANT REMAINED ON THE TABLE. IN THEIR VIEW, THIS PROPOSAL OFFERED THE MOST EXPEDITIOUS MEANS OF IDENTIFYING THE CAUSES OF WESTERN ERRORS AS REGARDS PACT FORCES AND ALSO OF CLARIFYING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OFFICIAL WESTERN DATA FOR NATO TROOP STRENGTH IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND EASTERN ESTIMATES.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00407 02 OF 02 161750Z
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07
IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 NRC-05
DHA-02 /096 W
-----089886 161752Z /41

R 161652Z JUL 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2290
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY ZNKARA
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0407

FROM US REP MBFR

5. DURING THE BALANCE OF THE JULY 15 INFORMAL SESSION,
WESTERN REPS PRESSED THE WESTERN CASE FOR COLLECTIVE CEILINGS
TOGETHER WITH A SPECIFIC CEILINGS ON SOVIET AND US
FORCES IN THE AREA AND REVIEWED THE WESTERN POSITION ON COMMIT-
MENTS WHICH NON-US WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS COULD BE REA-
SONABLY EXPECTED TO UNDERTAKE IN A FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT AS
REGARDS THEIR SECOND-PHASE REDUCTIONS. EASTERN REPS STRONGLY
ATTACKED THE WESTERN APPROACH TO ARMAMENT REDUCTIONS. THEY
SAID THAT, IN CALLING FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF A SOVIET TANK ARMY
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00407 02 OF 02 161750Z

WITH ALL ITS ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT, THE WEST WAS SEEKING, IN

EFFECT, TO LIMIT ALMOST ALL SOVIET ARMAMENTS AT REDUCED LEVELS WHILE LEAVING THE WAY OPEN FOR UNRESTRICTED ARMAMENT INCREASES ON THE WESTERN SIDE. EASTERN REPS ASKED TO BE CORRECTED IN THE EVENT THEY HAD MISUNDERSTOOD THE PRACTICAL THRUST OF WHAT THE WEST WAS PROPOSING. EASTERN REPS ALSO ATTEMPTED TO REFUTE WESTERN ARGUMENTS BASED ON GEOGRAPHY AND THE WESTERN CHARGE THAT CURRENT EASTERN DATA CLAIMS WERE INCONSISTENT WITH POSITIONS PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE EAST. IN THE LATTER CONNECTION, THEY STATED THAT EASTERN DATA DID NOT REFLECT ANY COMPENSATION FOR NATO CIVILIANS IN MILITARY EMPLOYMENT, WHICH THEY NUMBERED AT AROUND 200,000, AND THAT WHILE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN LOGICAL TO DEMAND SUCH COMPENSATION, THE EAST HAD NOT DONE SO IN THE INTEREST OF ACHIEVING AN AGREEMENT. FINALLY, EASTERN REPS ANSWERED SOME WESTERN DATA QUESTIONS FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS.

8. GDR REP OESER MADE THE ONLY STATEMENT AT THE JULY 14 PLENARY MEETING. HE REVIEWED THE EASTERN INTERPRETATION OF THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE AND ACCUSED THE WEST BOTH OF DEVIATING FROM AGREEMENTS RECORDED IN THAT DOCUMENT AND SEEKING TO REVISE IT UNILATERALLY. OESER ALSO CRITICIZED NATO FOR STRENGTHENING ITS FORCES DURING THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, EMPHASIZED THE FAILURE OF WESTERN PARTICIPANTS TO PROVE THEIR ASSERTION OF A SIGNIFICANT EASTERN SUPERIORITY IN MILITARY MANPOWER IN THE REDUCTION AREA AND STATED THAT THE WEST, UNLIKE THE EAST, HAD USED A DIFFERENT METHOD TO COUNT THE MANPOWER STRENGTH OF WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS THAN THE ONE THEY HAD EMPLOYED TO ESTIMATE THE SIZE OF EASTERN FORCES. GDR REP FURTHER HIGHLIGHTED THE WESTERN REFUSAL TO PRESENT NATIONAL MANPOWER DATA WHICH, HE SAID, WOULD CLARIFY THE ACTUAL FACTS OF THE SITUATION. RESOR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MBFRV00407
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770254-0243
Format: TEL
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770750/aaaabret.tel
Line Count: 199
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5507366a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1841448
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JULY 11-17
TAGS: PARM, XH, XT, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE DOD MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5507366a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009